INTRODUCTION

Section 2515 of title 10, United States Code (Appendix A) directs that "The Secretary of Defense shall establish within the Office of the Secretary of Defense an Office of Technology Transition." It further directs that the head of the office will ensure the office will monitor research and development (R&D) activities of the Department of Defense; identify R&D activities that result in technological advances that have potential for non-defense commercial applications; serve as a clearinghouse for, coordinate, and actively facilitate the transfer of such technologies and technological advancements to the private sector; conduct its activities in consultation and coordination with the Department of Energy and the Department of Commerce; and provide private firms with assistance in resolving problems related to technology transfer. It also directs the Secretary of Defense to submit to the Committees on Armed Services and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives an annual report on the activities of the Office at the same time the budget is submitted to Congress by the President. This report responds to that requirement and is the eighth annual report.

In keeping with the integrated planning and process team concept throughout the Department, the activities of the Office are conducted with the consultation, support, and active participation of personnel in the Military Departments and Defense Agencies. The ultimate goal is to achieve technically superior, affordable Defense systems while ensuring that technology developed for national security purposes is integrated into the private sector to enhance the national technology and industrial base.

In this report, the Office of Technology Transition is identified with specific programs and projects to support the technology transfer mission of the Department. These programs and projects work well together for this purpose. We note that many of the Military Department and Defense Agency offices and laboratory organizations have co-located and are managing these programs as part of their technology transfer efforts.